Pay of Vernacular School Teachers.

115. **MR. TARIATU KUNJITOMMAN** (*Muvattupuzha* cum *Todupuzha*): Will the Government be pleased to improve the condition of Vernacular School teachers by increasing their pay as early as possible?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The member is referred to the answer to question No. 112.

Vernacular School Teachers.

116. **MR. K. I. JOSEPH** (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they are aware that the remuneration paid to the teachers of Vernacular Schools, and especially of the Vernacular Elementary Schools, is too low; and

(*b*) whether they propose to do anything to mitigate the hardships of these teachers by making any substantial increase in their pay?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The member is referred to the answer to question No. 112.

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Am I to understand from this answer that the Government are convinced of the necessity of increasing the pay of these Vernacular teachers?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The member's attention is drawn to the answer to question No. 112, wherein Government say: "Government are reluctantly compelled to defer consideration of the question for the present".

MR. K. I. JOSEPH (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): From the words 'reluctantly compelled', am I to understand that the Government are actually convinced of the necessity of increasing their pay?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Government feel that it will be better if these teachers get better pay.

Improvement of the Prospects of Teachers of Lower Grade Elementary Schools.

117. **MR. A. K. PILLAI** (*Karunagapalli*): (1) Will the Government be pleased to state what steps they are going to take for ameliorating the condition of teachers in the grant-in-aid Lower Grade Elementary Schools?

(2) Are the Government aware that the above-said teachers are now receiving only Rs. 7½ per mensem which, under the present high level of prices, is too scanty a subsistence allowance?

(3) In view of the fact that the grant-in-aid Lower Grade Elementary Schools have no other source of income than the grants given from the Government, will the Government be pleased to state the reasons why this distinction is maintained between teachers in the grant-in-aid and Government schools in the matter of pay and pension?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (1) and (3). The fundamental principle in regard to the award of grant-in-aid for education is that no aided school should be conducted solely on the

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. T. P. Ramasubba Aiyar.]

strength of Government grants which are only intended to supplement other income including contributions from private source and that, if the Government were to defray the entire expenditure on account of the upkeep of such institutions, the object of the grant-in-aid system would be defeated. Government do not therefore propose to take any steps at present for increasing the grants.

(2) Male teachers in Primary Schools are receiving grants varying from Rs. 7½ to Rs. 12 and female teachers from Rs. 8¾ to Rs. 15 per mensem, according to their qualifications and the classes they teach.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): May I know whether the Government are aware that there is no other income for these grant-in-aid schools than the grant paid by the Government?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Grant is not meant as a substitute for pay. If there is no other income, grant alone can be given. It is not expected that grant will be an equivalent of pay.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): May I know whether Government is interested in the efficiency of the grant-in-aid schools as much as in that of the departmental schools?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): They are.

MR. A. K. PILLAI (*Karunagapalli*): Do the Government think that efficiency is improved or impaired according as the status and pay of the teachers are improved or not?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Yes. The responsibility is equally with the managers, more with the managers than with the Government. It is for them also to consider the matter.

Enhancement of grant-in-aid to Primary Schools.

118. MR. G. RAMAN MENON (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*): (*a*) Are the Government aware that the great majority of teachers in Vernacular Primary Aided Schools receive only the amount of the grant in-aid sanctioned by the Government as their remuneration and that such remuneration per individual is too meagre for the maintenance of the person concerned?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to increase the grant-in-aid to teachers of classes in which the levying of fees from pupils is forbidden by the Government?

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Government are aware that some teachers in aided Primary Schools receive only the amounts sanctioned as grant-in-aid by Government as their pay and that such remuneration is meagre for the maintenance of teachers.

(*b*) The member is referred to the answer to question No. 117

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